

REMARKS

The claims in the application remain 1-20.

Favorable reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

The specification and claims have been amended to eliminate the formal rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, raised on pages 2 and 3 of the Office Action. Claims 1 and 6-11 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102 as being anticipated by U.S. Pat. No. 4,775,288 to Dimitriu on page 3 of the Office Action. In this regard, Claims 2-5 and 12-20 have not been rejected over any art. Accordingly, Claims 2, 12 and 13 have been amended into independent form. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted at the very least, Claims 2-5 and 12-20 are in condition for allowance. However, it is also respectfully submitted the invention as recited in all pending claims herein is patentable over the applied art, for the following reasons (reference will be made to preferred embodiments of the present invention illustrated in the drawings of the present application).

As described in the present application, an important advantage provided over the prior art is the quick change of movable components 25, 26 of a tool 3-5 coupled to a power system 28 of a working machine 1, e.g., a forklift truck. This advantage is explicitly attained by eliminating hydraulic connection of respective elements coupled to the power system 28 and tool 3-5. More specifically, as recited in independent Claim 1, the present invention is directed to transmitting power from the power system 28 of the machine 1 to the movable parts 25, 26 of the tool 3-5 by a first element 7 driven by the power system 28, a second element 11 coupled directly or indirectly to the tool 3-5 and means 8,12 mechanically interconnecting elements 7, 11 in the absence of hydraulics such that

displacing the first element 7 (via the power system 28) moves both the second element 11 and the tool 3-5 (support for the amendment to independent Claim 1 on absence of hydraulic interconnection can be found throughout the present application, e.g., on pages 2 and 3 of the specification).

The features of the presently claimed invention together with the accompanying advantages attained thereby are neither disclosed nor suggested by the applied art, for the following reasons.

On page 3 of the Office Action, piston rod in cylinder 69 of Dimitriu (Fig. 6) is regarded as analogous to first element 7 of the claimed device, the end of piston rod in cylinder 73 as analogous to second element 11, support frame 18 and boom 19 end 20 as being removably coupled together (column 2, line 66- column 3, line 2 of Dimitriu) similar to tool 3-5 being coupled to machine 1 in the claimed invention, and boom 19, boom end 20, boom-slave cylinder 73, etc. as broadly constituting a "tool." However, an hydraulic system, i.e., cylinders 69 and 73, constitute the alleged "mechanical interconnection" of these two elements in Dimitriu, unlike the present invention which is explicitly designed to eliminate need to couple and uncouple respective hydraulic systems on a tool and truck.

It is also pointed out an important feature of the present invention is the mechanical interconnection 8, 12 also automatically establishing mechanical interconnection of the first 7 and second 11 elements on attaching the tool 3-5 to the working machine, as recited in independent Claim 2 herein and which has not been rejected over any art.

Accordingly, Dimitriu fails to either anticipate or render obvious the invention as recited in any claims herein. The remaining art of record has not been applied against the

claims and will not be commented upon further at this time.

Therefore, in view of the forgoing amendment and accompanying remarks, it is respectfully submitted all claims pending herein are in condition for allowance. Please contact the undersigned attorney should there be any questions. The fee for the additional independent claims herein is enclosed.

Early favorable action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "George M. Kaplan", is written over a horizontal line.

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